

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING YOU!
MINISTERS' SCHEDULE

5:00PM 7:30 AM 10:00AM

PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO SERVE WHENEVER POSSIBLE

CANTORS: Allan Harrigan	Dr. Gloria Callwood	Adult choir
LECTORS: Ruth Smith Helena Enrique	Noreen Joseph Rita Brady Bermudez	Suzanne Adrien Mona Bedminster
EUCH MIN: Candace Bryan	Allison Callwood Catherina Alexander	Yvonne Freeman Marylin Louis

Thank you for serving !!!

Please pray for the members of our body who are sick or suffering. . .

HOSPITAL: Margarita Feliciano, Ophelia Bannis.

OFF ISLAND: Bertina Lestrade, Altagracia Padilla, Emile Joseph, Enid Blyden, Isabel Dublin, Mary Lewis, Philomen Baron, Ruthine & Thomas, Johnson, Cryil Eugene, Joe Toussaint, Eugenie England.

AT HOME: Rita Ledee, Rose Celestine, Martina Lewis, Olivia Gumbs, Ann Bedminster, Bernice Knight, Claudy Brutus, Vernelle Gumbs, Evelyn Simon, Veronica Sealey, Gerard Henry, Grace Thompson, Andrea Victorine, Josephine James, Stanislaus Livepool, Meraldo C. Gonzales, Baby Elizabeth Dolphin, Cynthia Johnrose, Josephine Philbert, Iona Vanterpool, Josefina Donastorg, Owen Johnrose, Sonia Herbert, Roserita Laparol, Maggie Dolphin.

SEAVIEW, MASSAC, LUCINDA MILLIN - NO ONE EBENEZER HOME: Cleota Hill.

And all the sick and suffering in our community!



PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY for the repose of the souls of loved ones who have been called home by our Savior. *If you or your loved one is going into the hospital, please contact the office so that you/they may receive the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.*

You are practicing Perseverance when you ...

Affirmation:

I have perseverance. I finish what I start. I keep steady in what I choose to do. I am loyal and committed.

**Choose your commitments wisely.*

**Set goals and stick with them until completed.*

**Pace yourself, and take one step at a time.*

**Don't let doubts or tests blow you off course.*

WEEKLY ADVERTISEMENTS

**HOLIDAY MASS TIMES
CHRISTMAS EVE NIGHT**

CAROLS - 8:00 P.M.

MASS - 9:00 P.M. AND 11:00 P.M.

**CHRISTMAS DAY
9:00 A.M.**

OLD YEAR'S NIGHT

HOLY HOUR - 8:00 P.M.

MASS - 9:00 P.M. AND 11:00 P.M.

**NEW YEAR'S DAY
9:00 A.M.**

OFFICE HOURS

**Mondays - 10:00 AM
to 4:00 PM**

Tuesday - Friday

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM



TOYOTA OF ST. THOMAS
Estate 10 #3 New Quarter
Charlotte Amalie
St. Thomas, VI 00802

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PH: (340) 715-3132
Fax: (340) 715-3161

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God First, Family Second, Career Third



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God our Father, all the elements of nature obey Your commands. We praise and thank You for Your protection during the hurricane season. We ask You again to guide us through a new year free of earthquakes, floods and other natural disasters. Bless our families and bring peace to all nations. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

O God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love you, and I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love you. Amen.

FUNERAL SERVICES/MASSES

Funeral Masses at Holy Family Church are held on the designated day at 10:00 a.m. If you would like a different time please contact the pastor. Tributes and solos are done before the Mass at 9:00 a.m. Please keep your prelude activities to the minimum. **Funerals are NOT held on Wednesdays and on weekends (Saturdays and Sundays). Lectors of Holy Family Church will do the readings. Thank you for your cooperation.**

**Le Bleu
ULTRA PURE BOTTLED WATER**

Chi-Co's Distributing, Inc



Lindberg Bay #18
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St. Thomas, VI 00803

340-776-5894 / Fax: 340-776-5854

PARISH CELEBRATION

Birthdays

Altherleah Bruno, Dale Hendrickson, Jr., Dylan Hendrickson, Darryl Hendrickson, Jai Jones, Misterlyn Satine, Aaron Clarke, Roy Stout, II, Eric Blake, Jr., Delphina Mathurin, Marguerite Henderson, Emelie Brooks, Jaden Francis, Jaleen Bedminster, Kindarly Mahautiere, Leander Poleon, Edwin Dorval, Elroy Pickering, Jr., Catherine Birmingham, Adius Dieu, Vincia St. Jean, Julian Gumbs, Velma Abramsen, Patricia Grell, Simone James, Edmond Benjamin.



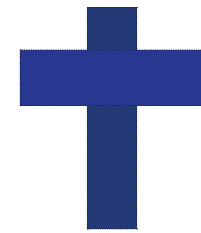
Lord, bless our parishioners who celebrate their special day this week. Amen!

Holy Family Catholic Church

Welcomes You!

Feast of the Holy Family- Dec. 29, 2019

P.O. Box 502218, St. Thomas,
U.S. Virgin Islands 00805
Tel: (340) 775-1650
Fax: (340) 775-1750
E-mail: holyfamilyvi@msn.com
Website: www.holyfamilystt.com
Facebook: Holy Familyvi
EMERGENCY CONTACT
(340) 513-8262



MISSION STATEMENT

The Church of the Holy Family exists to Nurture and advance Christ's Eucharistic Unconditional Love to all, through Love of God and neighbor.

Pastor
Reverend Neil Scantlebury

Associate Pastor
Reverend Kerly François

In Residence
Rev. John Fewel

Deacon
Rev. Mr. Frank Kearney
Rev. Mr. Evans Doway

Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Allison Callwood

Sacristan
Mr. Ryan John
Francesca Alcendor

Musicians
Mr. Francis Callwood
Mr. Verne Callwood
Mr. Desmond Simmonds

Volunteers
Ms. Jennifer Johnson
Mr. Richard Callwood, III

CHANCERY: BISHOP'S OFFICE

**Venerable Pierre Toussaint
Catholic Chapel**

4B-B Estate Bovoni
St. Thomas VI 00802

Masses:
Saturday 5:00 p.m. (Creole)
and
Every **LAST Thursday**
at 5:00 p.m.

**Online giving or donation
can be made through our
website at:
www.holyfamilystt.com**

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 PM
**Sunday: 7:30 AM; 10:00 AM &
5:00 PM Creole Mass**

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Friday: 7:00 AM
**Wednesday: OLPH Novena before the
7:00 AM Mass followed by
Adoration after the mass to 5:00 PM**
Friday: Holy Hour 6PM - 7PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday: 4:15 PM to 4:45 PM
Fourth Wednesdays - 4:00PM to 6:00PM

**Readings for the Week
of December 29, 2019**

Mon.: 1 John 2:12 - 17; Luke 2:36 - 40
Tue.: 1 John 2:18 - 21; John 1:1: - 18
Wed.: Numbers 6:22 - 27; Galatians 4:4 - 7;
Luke 2:16 - 21
Thur.: 1 John 2:22 - 28; John 1:19 - 28
Fri.: 1 John 2:29 - 3:6; John 1:29 - 34
Sat.: 1 John 3:7 - 10; John 1:35 - 42

**NEXT SUNDAY:
The Epiphany of the Lord**

Isaiah 60:1 - 6
Ephesians 3:2 - 3a, 5 - 6
Matthew 2:1 - 12

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

FIRST READING: Sirach 3:2 - 6, 12 - 14

People who revere their father will live a long life; they who obey their father bring comfort to their mother. Kindness to a parent will take lasting root.

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12 - 21

The church at Colossae heard, "Put on ... heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." Bear with one another. Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you. The author wrote, be thankful, and "let the word of Christ dwell in you richly."

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2:13 - 15, 19 - 23

Joseph was told in a dream to take the child and his mother to Egypt. In that way the prophecy would be fulfilled: "Out of Egypt I called my son." When they returned, they settled in Nazareth to fulfill another prophecy: "He shall be called a Nazorean."

Out of love for us, God sent the Son to be born into the world. Today, in the middle of the Christmas season, as we celebrate the love of God for humanity, we are reminded of the love that binds a family together. Above all things, Paul counsels the Colossians, we are called to put on love. Let us listen today for the ways in which we can show our love for our parents, our spouse, and our children.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

5:00 PM: Birthday blessings for Eugenia Santos rb Her sister, Olga McBean.

Birthday blessings for Marguerite Henderson rb Marguerite Henderson.

Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM: God's guidance and protection for Eamon John Lewis rb His mother.

10:00 AM: The children of St. Jude Research Hospital rb Marilyn Louis.

5:00 PM: God's continued blessings for the Haitian community.

Daily Masses:

Mon. Dec. 30, 7:00 AM: **Blessed Vicente Vilar David**
God's healing for Jackie Henry rb Mary Antoine.

Tues. Dec. 31, 9:00 PM: **St. Sylvester I**
Birthday blessings for Elaine Rene and Briana Grant rb the Rene family.

11:00 PM: Christmas blessings for Holy Family parishioners.

Wed. Jan. 1, 9:00 AM: **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God NEW YEAR'S DAY**
Theresa Hebry (deceased) rb The Rene family.

Thurs. Jan. 2, 7:00 AM: **Sts. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen**
God's continued blessings for Loise Riveria rb Lois Riveria.

Fri. Jan. 3, 7:00 AM: **The Most Holy Name of Jesus**
Kate McGinnity rb Estelle Farro.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECOND COLLECTION: This week's second collection goes towards the **Bishop's Appeal**. Next week's second collection goes towards the **Bishop's Appeal**. As always we thank you for your generosity.

ETERNAL CANDLE: This week the Eternal Candle is burning **for birthday blessings for Tina LaPenna, requested by Tina LaPenna**. You can request the Eternal Candle for your loved ones' birthdays or any special occasions.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS: Fr. Neil Scantlebury and Fr. Kerly Francois wish to thank all those who sent Christmas cards, gifts or called to wish them Merry Christmas. May God continue to bless you and your family and may the Christ child bring you into a deeper relationship with Him. Once again, thank you.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: Thank you for your generous contribution for the 2019 calendar year. Please note that we have not received our 2020 Offertory envelopes. Kindly be patient with us. They have sent us a package of generic envelopes that can be used for any collection, weekly or special, until our order is received. Provisions have been made on the envelope for your name and address, etc. so we can capture the information for donation recording. As soon as we receive our batch, we will put them out. **The envelopes will be at the entrance of the church. Please do not waste the envelopes. If you do not need them please do not take any. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING. GOD BLESS.**

SYMPATHY: On behalf of Holy Family parishioners, Rev. Kerly François, Deacon Frank Kearney and Rev. Neil Scantlebury extend sincere sympathy to **Mavis Pierre** and family on the passing of her husband, **Lindo Pierre** who died on **Friday, December 13, 2019**. The funeral mass for the late **Lindo Pierre**, will take place on **Monday, December 30, 2019**, at 10:00 a.m. Viewing will precede the mass at 9:00 a.m. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

OLD YEAR'S/NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE: Please note that the masses for **OLD YEAR'S NIGHT** will be at **9:00 P.M. and 11:00 P.M.** and on **NEW YEAR'S DAY** mass will be celebrated at **9:00 A.M. HOLY HOUR WILL BE BEFORE THE 9:00 P.M. MASS.**

OFFICE CLOSED: Please note that the church office will be closed on **Wednesday, January 1, 2020**, ALL DAY. The church office will reopen on **Thursday, January 2, 2020**. Please be guided accordingly.

YOUTH GROUP: Youth ages 13 years to 19 years are encouraged to participate in a youth group with a difference, beginning on **Friday, January 3, 2020, at 7:00p.m.** in Lower Columban Hall, where you will encounter faith, fun and food. Parents are kindly asked to please encourage your young people to be a part of this youth group with a difference, by bringing them out.

FUNERAL SERVICE/MASS: Please note that effective **January 1, 2020**, the cost for funerals will be **\$300.00** for registered Holy Family members and **\$500.00** for persons who are not members of Holy Family Church. This price raise is in keeping with the other Catholic churches in St. Thomas. Please be guided accordingly.

HOLY FAMILY REGISTRATION FORM: Forms are available at the entrance of the church. Persons who are not registered members of Holy Family church and wish to register as members of Holy Family Church, please find registration forms at the entrance of the church and return the filled our form to the church office. Thank you for your understanding.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

LITURGY AND WORD

The devotion to the Holy Family was born in Bethlehem, together with the Baby Jesus. The shepherds went to adore the Child and, at the same time, they gave honor to His family. Later, in a similar way, the three wise men came from the East to adore and give honor to the newborn King with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh that would be safeguarded by His family.

We can go further to affirm that in a certain sense Christ, Himself, was the first devotee of His family. He showed His devotion to His mother and foster father by submitting Himself, with infinite humility, to the duty of filial obedience towards them. This is what St Bernard of Clairvaux said in this regard, 'God, to whom angels submit themselves and who principalities and powers obey, was subject to Mary; and not only to Mary but Joseph also for Mary's sake [...]. God obeyed a human creature; this is humility without precedent. A human creature commands God; it is sublime beyond measure.' (First Homily on the 'Missus Est').

Today's celebration demonstrates Christ's humility and obedience with respect to the fourth commandment, whilst also highlighting the loving care that His parents exercised in His keeping. The servant of God, Pope John Paul II, in 1989, entitled his Apostolic Exhortation, 'Redemptoris Custos' (Guardian of the Redeemer) which was dedicated to the person and the mission of Saint Joseph in the life of Christ and of the Church. After exactly a century, he resumed the teaching of Pope Leo XIII, for who Saint Joseph '... shines among all mankind by the most august dignity, since by divine will, he was the guardian of the Son of God and reputed as His father among men' (Encyclical Quamquam Pluries [1889] n. 3). Pope Leo XIII continued, '... Joseph became the guardian, the administrator, and the legal defender of the divine house whose chief he was. [...] It is, then, natural and worthy that as the Blessed Joseph ministered to all the needs of the family at Nazareth and girt it about with his protection, he should now cover with the cloak of his heavenly patronage and defend the Church of Jesus Christ.' Not many years before, blessed Pope Pius IX had proclaimed Saint Joseph, 'Patron of the Catholic Church' (1870)

Almost intuitively, one can recognize that the mysterious, exemplary,

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Every week the report on stewardship will include our gifts of time, talent, and treasure. In gratitude to God, we give of our first fruits to help fulfill God's mission of love here on earth.

Attendance: Last Weekend: **402**
Last Weekend's collections
FIRST COLLECTION: \$4,989.04
Bishop's Appeal: \$776.00

Our Bishop's Appeal contribution for 2019 amounted to \$36,488.00, 91% of our goal of \$40,000.00. As always we thank you for your continuous contribution towards our Bishop's Appeal. Once again, thank you.

LITURGY AND WORD CONT'D

guardianship enacted by Joseph was conducted firstly, in a yet more intimate way, by Mary. Consequently, the liturgical feast of the Holy Family speaks to us of the fond and loving care that we must render to the Body of Christ. We can understand this in a mystical sense, as guardians of the Church, and also in the Eucharistic sense. Mary and Joseph took great care of Jesus' physical body. Following their example, we can and must take great care of His Mystical Body, the Church, and the Eucharist which He has entrusted to us. If Mary was, in some way, 'the first tabernacle in history' (John Paul II Ecclesia de Eucharistia, n. 55) then we the Tabernacle in which Our Lord chose to reside in person, in His Real Presence, was also entrusted to us. We can learn from Mary and Joseph! What would they ever have overlooked in the care of Jesus' physical body? Is there something, therefore, that we can withhold for the right and adoring care of His Eucharistic Body? No amount of attention, no sane act of love and adoring respect will ever be too much! On the contrary, our adoration and respect will always be inferior to the great gift that comes to us in the Holy Eucharist.

Looking at the Holy Family, we see the love, the protection, and the diligent care that they gave to the Redeemer. We can not fail to feel uneasiness, perhaps a shameful thought, for the times in which we have not rendered the appropriate care and attention to the Blessed Eucharist. We can only ask for forgiveness and do penance for all the sacrilegious acts and the lack of respect that are committed in front of the Blessed Eucharist. We can only ask the Lord, through the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth, for a greater love for their Son Incarnate, who has decided to remain here on earth with us every day until the end of time.